

Existing law requires that sheriffs and deputy sheriffs are to be insured under a policy, or policies, or a self-insurance plan, of group life, health, accident, accidental death and dismemberment, hospital, surgical, or medical expense insurance in such an amount, or amounts, as may be contracted for by the officers of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association. Further provides that the sheriff and deputy sheriffs of each parish of the state may elect group life, health, accident, accidental death and dismemberment, hospital, surgical, or medical expense insurance either under the policy or policies or self-insurance plan contracted for by the officers of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association or under a group policy or policies or self-insurance plan contracted for by the sheriff.

Existing law also requires that any such policy or self-insurance plan providing group hospital, surgical, medical expense, or life insurance contain a provision authorizing any covered employee retiring under his sheriff's department retirement plan to elect to continue such coverage upon retirement. Provides that the premium cost of such coverage may be paid in full or in part from the sheriff's general funds or by the retired employee. Requires each sheriff to formulate and apply a uniform policy relative to payment of such premiums.

New law retains all of existing law and adds requirement that 100% of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first \$10,000 of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of existing law are to be paid by the sheriff's general fund for all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs retired from the Assumption Parish sheriff's office with at least 20 years of service.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Adds R.S. 33:1448(G))